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OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

I MISSION

The Office of Communications provides electronic communications and cryptographic service between Agency Headquarters and its overseas stations.

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II METHOD

A. Staff Communications

25X1 The Agency's [redacted] locations are provided communications service by Office of Communications personnel who function as full-time cryptographers and/or radio operators, or Office of Communications-trained staff personnel who perform cryptographic duties on a part-time basis as circumstances dictate.

The bulk of the traffic generated by overseas stations is passed to Headquarters via military circuits. In addition to being a ne-

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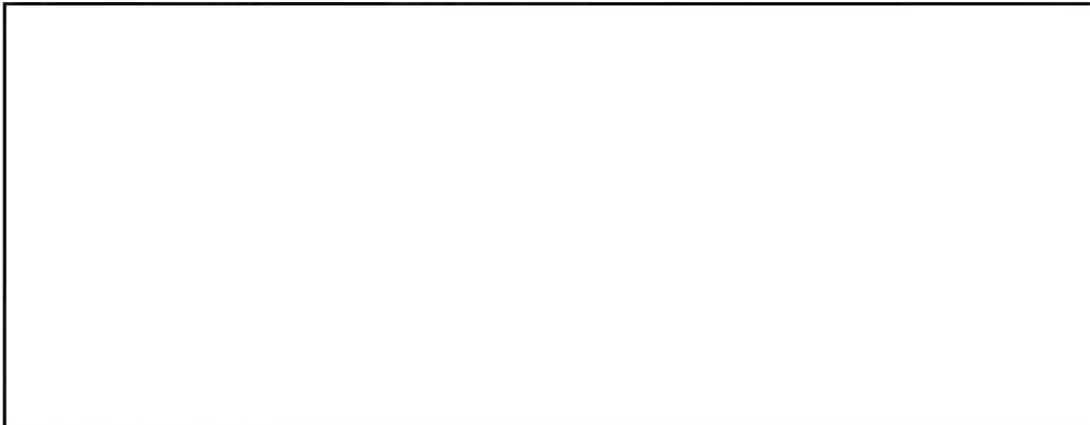
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B. Clandestine Communications



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III ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

In support of communications operations it is necessary to use a wide variety of communications and associated equipment. To the fullest extent possible, the Office of Communications draws upon existing military signal stocks and collaborates closely with the services in the research and development of new items.

The bulk of Office of Communications research and development, however, is concentrated on equipment and methods unique to the Agency's operations. When security permits, the resulting products are made available to other Government services. At this time we are well into the development of a method of communications which will be of extreme value to the U. S. Government as a whole in the event of another war or even in peace time as the frequency spectrum approaches saturation.

It should be noted that the Office of Communications has an urgent need for skilled technicians and engineers to continue this work. Nevertheless, the Office of Communications, Engineering Division's Table of Organization has not been filled because we are unable to compete with private industry in the matter of pay.

Along slightly different lines, but relative to the general subject of support from the services, is the matter of cryptographic material so essential to the Agency's operation. This is provided by NSA excepting in the most sensitive operations when the systems are developed by the Office of Communications but in conjunction with NSA.

IV PERSONNEL

Exclusive of Signal Center personnel which service the entire Agency, need, [redacted] Office of Communications is overseas. As a result of this there exist many problems involving rotation, however,

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housing and schooling. Attrition in the form of medical holds, dissatisfaction with processing problems, overseas living, apparent inequities between private and Government employment results in great difficulties in maintaining personnel at a level adequate to support the Agency's operations. No relief is discernible.

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